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Black Chord



Synopsis

A celebration of Black music in original photography and text. The Black Chord bridges the boundaries between blues, rock, funk, jazz and world music. This lavishly illustrated book makes the historical, social, personal, and creative connections between great Black musicians from around the world. Tracing the history of today's music, it delves into the ancestral source that will continue to enrich the pop charts in the future. Organized by themes such as Roots & Culture, Heart & Soul, Revolution, and Explorers. The Black Chord celebrates the idea of a musical thread that travels throughout the world expressing a sensibility unique to each region. This thread weaves through every place, changing its culture and music. In this comprehensive and unprecedented survey compelling portraiture is combined with a fascinating history, including highlights from the author's interviews with such luminaries as Bob Marley, Missy Elliott, Cassandra Wilson, Curtis Mayfield, and more, to create an insightful, in-depth volume. The Black Chord a landmark depiction of the cultural cross-fertilization that is the foundation of today's pop. Following a circular path, music has traveled from its return and recreate itself: Senegalese rhythms survived slavery and flourished in New Orleans to become jazz and rhythm & blues which informed Jamaican reggae, which influenced New York hip-hop, which in turn-completing the circle-inspired young rap artists in Senegal. This is a centuries long saga that continues to energize musicians in every genre.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"From the African oral history tradition to rap culture Goldman weaves the musical thread of Black

music into a brilliant tapestry that's globally significant." --Deborah Gregory, *Essence*"The story of David Corio and Vivien Goldman's *The Black Chord* is the centuries long saga of the drive to bring good out of evil, as the people of the Black Diaspora discovered the power of culture to fortify and rescue the downtrodden. We learn that, by keeping pride in one's roots and self-criticism in one's process while embracing the best aspects of societies that were often pitted against them, the ancient traditions of juba dances and slave chants endured due to the struggles of Curtis Mayfield and Bob Marley, and they thrive in the kindred spirits of Cassandra Wilson and Lauryn Hill-ultimately turning antipathy into admiration and lonely adversity into communal triumph.The greatest myth of the modern music business is that it derives its importance from the money it makes. But as *The Black Chord* reveals, so long as music has the courage to renew itself, teaching that tenderness is strength. love is power, and human dignity is priceless, it will always prosper where it really matters most: in the hearts and minds of humanity." --Timothy White, Editor in Chief, *Billboard*; author of the bestseller *Catch a Fire: The Life of Bob Marley*.

David Corio has been a photographer for more than twenty years. His work has appeared throughout the U.S. and England on more than one hundred record sleeves as well as in the *New York Times*, the *Times* in London, *New Musical Express*, *the Face*, *Rolling Stone*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Vibe*, *Mojo*, *the Source*, and more. Vivien Goldman is an author who has been chronicling Black music and culture for twenty-five years. Her journalism has appeared throughout the U.S., England, and France in publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *the Village Voice*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Marie Claire*, *British Elle*, *Billboard*, and the *Daily Telegraph* in London. Isaac Hayes is a legendary musician and radio personality. Hayes is also the voice of Chef on the popular animated series of "South Park."

This is a powerful book containing David Corio's beautiful black and white portrait and performance photographs of a who's who of black music. Vivien Goldman's text gives a fascinating account of how all the strands of music are interlinked. There is no other book like it out there.

Haunting photos with a very intimate feeling to them, and eloquent text make thought-provoking points about black culture, its social impact and the feelings these artists have always had for each other. Getting strengths from each other, they taught us all things about how to be strong. Unique and provocative book. Really enjoyed and learned from it.

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